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March 27, 2017

Arthur Burbank Remedial Project Manager Forest Service Intermountain Region 4350 South Cliffs Drive Pocatello, ID 83204

Subject:

Smoky Canyon Mine Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Final Phase 2 Pilot Study Work Plan/Sampling and Analysis Plan Ultra-Filtration/Reverse Osmosis and Biological Selenium Removal Fluidized Bed Bioreactor Treatment Technology

Dear Art:

This submittal by the J.R. Simplot Company provides the Final Phase 2 Pilot Study Work Plan and Sampling and Analysis Plan, Ultra-Filtration/Reverse Osmosis and Biological Selenium Removal Fluidized Bed Bioreactor Treatment Technology for the Smoky Canyon Mine Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS).

The document has been revised to address Agency comments (January 3, January 13, and February 24, 2017) on the Draft Work Plan/SAP (October 26, 2016); Simplot responses to these comments were transmitted to the Agencies on January 30 and March 3, 2017. Furthermore, we have addressed the Agencies' comment letter dated March 21, 2017 regarding comment AC-3 by revising Appendix D of the Final Work Plan/SAP. We acknowledge comment AC-1 that the system goal of < = 7 ug/l used the average concentration achieved by the FBR Phase 1 pilot study. The Phase 2 pilot study will assess the efficiencies of the FBR while treating the RO concentrate, and adjustments will be made to optimize the pilot system.

Additionally, in consultation with two of the laboratories identified in the Work Plan/SAP (SVL Analytical and IAS EnviroChem), we have incorporated specific clarifications or corrections in Table 3-9 (Laboratory Analyses - Full Analytical Suite) and Table 3-11 (Sample Preservation and Holding Times) for calcium, selenate and selenite, nitrate+nitrite, and Total Organic Carbon (TOC).

This document can be downloaded at the website: (b) (6)

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Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Hamilton

**Environmental Engineer** 

## **Enclosures**

CC

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